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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 138

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Djamel MOKTEFI (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 26th and 32nd meetings, on 10 and 21 November 1997. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/52/SR.26 and 32).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (A/51/519/Add.5 and Corr.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/546).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DECISION A/C.5/52/L.8

4. At its 32nd meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" (A/C.5/52/L.8), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/52/L.8 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:[2]

(a) Takes note of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

(b) Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 10,608,000 United States dollars gross (9,987,600 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, in addition to the amount of 178,880,900 dollars gross (170,269,700 dollars net) already appropriated under the provisions of Assembly resolution 51/152 B of 13 June 1997, and endorses the observations made by the Advisory Committee in paragraph 5 of its report;[2]

(c) Requests the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to take the necessary steps to employ locally recruited staff for General Service posts for the Mission commensurate with the operational requirements of such posts and to report to the General Assembly on this matter;

(d) Decides also to keep the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" under review at its fifty-second session.

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[1] A/51/519/Add.5 and Corr.1.

[2] A/52/546.

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Agenda items 81 and 112
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw to your attention the joint statement issued by the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe at their meeting in Heracleion, Crete, in Greece, on 4 November 1997 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 81 and 112, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Christos ZACHARAKIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Joint statement issued at Heracleion, Greece, on 4 November 1997, by the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe

We, the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe, President Kiro Gligorov, President Slobodan Milošević, Prime Minister Victor Ciorbea, Prime Minister Ivan Kostov, Prime Minister Fatos Nano, Prime Minister Costas Simitis and Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ismail Cem, Mr. Blagoj Handziski, Mrs. Nadezhda Mihailova, Mr. Paskal Milo, Mr. Milan Milutinovich, Mr. Theodoros Pangalos and Mr. Adrian Severin and the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mihovil Malbasic, participating as an observer, representing the freely elected Governments of the South-Eastern European peoples met for the first time in our history in Crete and agreed on the following:

We shall work together to create in our region conditions for the prosperity of our nations in a framework of peace, security, good-neighbourliness and stability.

We are determined to pursue South-Eastern Europe cooperation, on a mutual and equal basis, in the firm belief that each of us has much to learn from the others.

We shall promote the state of law, the protection of human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, including inter-ethnic dialogue, individual freedoms and a market economy that will allow individual enterprises to flourish and generate employment and opportunities for all and especially for youth.

We affirm our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, the Paris Charter for a New Europe and the Helsinki Final Act, including all 10 principles referred to therein, namely, sovereign equality, respect for rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, cooperation among States and fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law.

We consider that the European orientation of our countries is an integral part of their political, economic and social development.

We aspire to transform our region into an area of cooperation and economic prosperity and, to that effect, we decided to promote good neighbourly relations and respect for international law.

We believe that Europe cannot be complete without our countries and our peoples, representing civilizations and historic traditions that are essential to the establishment of a contemporary European identity. European and Euro-Atlantic integration are essential in promoting the aforementioned objectives.

We shall encourage the cooperation of the genuine representatives of our peoples in our national parliaments, as well as their common intention to create a forum of understanding and friendly relations.

We reconfirmed our support for already existing regional initiatives sharing the same ideals with us, such as Royaumont, the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Central European Initiative.

We shall promote scientific, educational, cultural and sport relations as a means of strengthening our mutual understanding and friendship.

We shall cooperate with each other in the field of justice, the combat against organized crime, the halting of illicit drug and arms trafficking and the elimination of all forms of terrorism and shall take joint action against illegal and irregular migration.

Our cultural and religious diversity cannot be seen as a threat to our cooperation and security. On the contrary, we believe it is a powerful source of inspiration, creativity and dynamism.

We shall intensify our efforts for the increase of our economic cooperation, the improvement of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications and energy as well as for the establishment of favourable conditions for investments. We invite the competent ministers to meet at least once a year to assess progress.

We shall promote cross-border cooperation and to that effect we invite officials to meet regularly and Ministers of the Economy or Finance, or other Ministers responsible for it, to meet at least once a year to review the progress achieved.

We took into consideration different valuable proposals for the establishment of institutes and centres for the promotion of multilateral cooperation in various fields.

We call upon the Ministers for Foreign Affairs to meet at least once a year to conduct political consultations and to promote cooperation on issues of regional stability and security. Political directors will meet every three months for consultations and report to Ministers.

In order to ensure continuity between the countries undertaking the organization of summit or ministerial meetings as well as of various technical groups, the idea of establishing a joint secretariat will be discussed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

The Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe expressed their warm thanks for the hospitality of Greece in hosting the Crete summit meeting. They decided to hold their next summit meeting in Turkey in 1998.

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letters dated 12 November 1997 (A/52/684-S/1997/897) and 4 November 1997 (A/52/569-S/1997/852), I have the honour to protest strongly the illegal Turkish actions of increasing its occupation forces with new military equipment and men as per the attached list. According to our information, after the termination of the Turkish military exercise "Toros 1997", illegally held in the occupied part of Cyprus, Turkey has not withdrawn the additional equipment and men brought in under the pretext of that exercise.

These actions constitute a violation of repeated General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and are in complete disregard of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. Moreover, they seriously affect the credibility of the Security Council, whose resolutions provide for the withdrawal of the occupation troops. These actions further escalate the tension in the island, raising serious questions concerning the true aims and intentions of Turkey towards Cyprus.

I should also like, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus to protest strongly the participation of a high-level Turkish delegation, headed by the Turkish Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Bulent Ecevit, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ismail Cem, at the "celebrations" marking the fourteenth anniversary of the illegal declaration of the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus", in the occupied part of Cyprus.

This action, in our view, is an insult to the United Nations since Security Council resolutions categorically condemned the declaration of the purported secession of part of the Republic of Cyprus, considered such declaration as

legally invalid and called for its withdrawal and upon all States not to recognize any Cypriot state other than the Republic of Cyprus (Council resolution 541 (1983) of 18 November 1983). The Security Council further condemned all subsequent secessionist actions and reiterated its call upon all States not to recognize the purported state of the 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' set up by secessionist acts and called upon them not to facilitate or in any way assist the aforesaid secessionist entity (Council resolution 550 (1984) of 11 May 1984).

While strongly protesting these actions on the part of the Turkish Government, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus requests that all urgent and necessary measures be taken so that Turkey abandons its intransigent position and complies with the will of the international community. In this context, we believe that it is time the Security Council examines alternative ways and means to promote the implementation of its resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

NEW MILITARY EQUIPMENT BROUGHT INTO THE OCCUPIED AREA

24 September

Eight automatic firearms 155 klm (type M-52TS)

14 October

Twenty-eight advanced armoured personnel carriages (AAPC) type M113

16 October

Twelve mobile artillery units (M110, 203 mm)

23 October

Seventeen M48A5T2 tanks

25 October

Seventeen M48AT2 tanks

On 10 and 11 November 1997, a number of transport and tank landing ships docked at Famagusta port. According to reliable information, new weaponry was unloaded.

During the above-mentioned period, about 3,000 troops of the Turkish army, including special commando forces, arrived in the occupied areas. A relevant amount of ammunition was also delivered, along with more than 200 auxiliary vehicles (jeeps, trucks).

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IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the attached declaration by the Presidency of the European Union regarding the financial situation of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 117.

(Signed) Jean-Louis WOLZFELD
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg
to the United Nations

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ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Declaration by the Presidency of the European Union regarding the financial situation of the United Nations issued on 19 November 1997

The European Union strongly deplores the fact that the United States Congress has suspended its autumn session proceedings without adopting any legislation concerning the payment of the arrears due to the United Nations and that the United States of America - which is the largest contributor to the Organization but primarily its largest debtor - is not signifying any intention to start settling its debts.

It is very worrying that one of the major Member States continues not to fulfil its responsibilities under the United Nations Charter, which fall within its commitments under international law. The absence of any decision by the United States Congress on the payment of arrears comes at a time when the United Nations is making an unprecedented effort to reform its structures and methods of operation.

The fact that the United States of America is continuing not to pay the arrears in contributions it owes the Organization perpetuates the serious financial crisis with which the United Nations is struggling, and seriously affects the climate of trust within the Organization.

The European Union is counting on all States Members of the United Nations to honour their obligations vis-à-vis the United Nations promptly, in full and unconditionally, in accordance with the scale of assessments adopted by the General Assembly.

That is the approach taken by the Member States of the European Union, whose combined contributions account for 35.4 per cent of the Organization's regular budget and 37.9 per cent of its budget for peacekeeping operations. They act in this way because they are convinced of the need to preserve the irreplaceable role of the United Nations as the only international organization of a universal character which takes global action in the cause of peace, social equality and justice.

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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 19 November 1997, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 4 November 1997 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot deputy representative at the United Nations, which contains allegations regarding "the violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic" (A/52/569-S/1997/852).

I would like to recall that charges of a similar nature, namely allegations on the so-called "airspace violations" were rejected in toto in our successive communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 29 October 1997 (A/52/544-S/1997/826, annex). Since the present Greek Cypriot allegations are no different from or more credible than those previously made, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate briefly, however, that flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which the usurper Greek Cypriot regime in the South has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. The same principle applies also in the case of visits to the TRNC by vessels belonging to the Turkish navy.

The repeated allegations made by the Greek Cypriot administration demonstrate that it is not prepared to accept the present realities in the island (i.e. the existence of two separate administrations) which will constitute the framework of a bi-zonal settlement based on the sovereign equality of the two sides in Cyprus. The Greek Cypriot administration of southern Cyprus, which passes itself off as the "Government of Cyprus" and which destroyed in 1963, by force of arms, the 1960 partnership Republic, has no resemblance whatsoever to the bi-communal "Government of Cyprus" established and guaranteed by international treaties. The so-called "Government of Cyprus" is no other than the Greek Cypriot administration whose jurisdiction extends only over the area of the island under Greek Cypriot control. It is high time that third parties treat the two sides in Cyprus equally and encourage them to develop positive relations based on mutual recognition. The efforts of the Greek Cypriot side in the international arena to provide a smokescreen for its lack of political will to reach a negotiated settlement and its reckless policy of escalation and tension in the island should no longer be condoned by the community of nations.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus